

# Macomb District #185 Early Childhood Programs MacArthur School 235 W. Grant, Macomb, IL 61455 833-4273 or 833-1732



April 21, 1997

MAY 1

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, NW, Room 844 Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am a principal and the director of special services from Macomb Unit School District #185 in Macomb, Illinois. I appreciate your dedication in ensuring that all school districts will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$4.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools and will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

District 185 is making every effort to integrate global communications opportunities into the instructional program. The scope of this program will be severely limited or perhaps even short-lived without this discount plan.

Deep discounts for telecommunications services to schools are needed this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sally Sallee

Principal and Director of Special Services

Macomb Unit School District #185

Dely Salew

C 096-45

Connie Hendrix, Technology Resource Teacher James Lick Middle School 1220 Noe Street San Francisco, CA 94114

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

Hon. Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, NW, Room 844 Washington, D.C. 20554 Federal Communications Commission
Office of Scanning

Dear Commissioner Chong,

I'm writing to support the erate draft rules (CC Docket No. 96-95). These rules, if implemented, would give discounts from 20 to 90 percent for all telecommunication services based on poverty levels in school districts. I work in an urban school where more than 70% of our students qualify for free or reduced lunch price. Finding money for anything is difficult. By reducing the cost of high quality education tools for telecommunications, you'd be making my job easier and the education for our students better.

I'm currently working with UC Berkeley and Yerba Buena Gardens Center for the Arts to set up teacher training and student projects utilizing telecommunications. Access to telecommunications is essential to these projects.

Thank you for your support.

Connie Hendrix



April 22, 1997

Homeland Park Elementary School 3519 Wilmont Street Anderson, South Carolina 29624 (803) 260-5125

An Equal Opportunity Employer

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, NW, Room 844 Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am the Principal of Homeland Park Elementary School in Anderson, South Carolina. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your efforts and dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all schools will have the opportunity to connect to the internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The funds planned for this effort will help provide service to our school and more importantly will bring services into the classrooms where my students can use it daily to increase learning opportunities. Your inclusion of Internal classroom connections for discounts is vital.

These discounts will enable our District to provide these connections within the classrooms. My school is located in a high poverty area. Approximately 85% of the students receive free or reduced-price lunches. Any assistance to help these children reach their full potential will be greatly appreciated. If we are to have an effective work force of tomorrow, we must make sure that the students of today are provided all opportunities. This plan will help make this a reality.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I urge you and the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Sincerely.

ALLEN B. ADKINS, Ed.D.

Principal



**Administrative Offices** 

April 24, 1997

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

Federal Course Magazine Commission Office of Society

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, NW, Room 844 Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner:

As the superintendent of Orangeburg Consolidated School District Five, I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and will provide distance-learning opportunities at a discounted rate. The school portion, \$ 2.25 billion a year, will ensure that the needs of our students, and schools are met.

Our district is currently one of the eight pilot sites funded through the South Carolina Two-Way Video Distance Learning Project. This plan would reduce the cost of continuing this initiative and would also enable us to expand these services and opportunities through the savings projected.

This plan will enable us to bring those services directly to the classroom and to our students. Those discounts on inside connections, Internet access, installation and maintenance are essential as we plan for the upcoming fiscal budget. Your recommendation is an important part of this process.

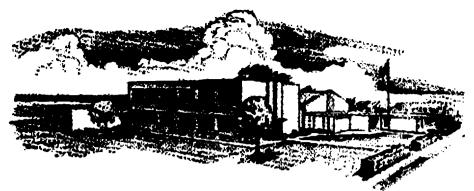
Our school district needs these discounts for telecommunications services this year. I ask the FCC to support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service.

Sincerely,

Walter L. Tobin Superintendent BOARD OF EDUCATION

James E. Vondal, President Bruce Olsen, Vice President

James W. Howard, Director Gaylon Sieler, Director Gregory E. Westlind, Director Susan Davis, Business Manager



Mark M. Lindahi, H. S. Princ. Wayne Denault, Elem. Princ

#### Cando Public School April 25, 1997

The Honoroble Rachelle Chong Commissioner Federal Communications Commission, North Dakota 58324-0489 1919 M. Street, NW Room 832 Washington, DC 20554

Southern School District No. 8 418 2nd Avenue P.O. Box 489 Lewis A. Getz, Superintendent 701-968-4416 Fax: 701-968-4418

Federal Country Burns Commission

Galera of Sacrulary

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am a school secretary from the Cando Public School District #8, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The 2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of Internet classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

In Cando, we are in the process of wiring our school for internet access. As you know, this is a big expenditure for a district with 345 students K-12. The possibilities I see for our students with Internet access is endless, but costly, Telecommunication providers should not capitalize on our schools or our children. Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications service this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Sincerely

Nicole Miller School Secretary Cando Public School

## Harmony Union School District



P.O. Box 279 4008 Bohemian Highway Occidental, California 95465 (707) 823-6220 Fax (707) 823-8224

> Superintendent/Principal Harmony Elementary School Rick Brewer

April 22, 1997

Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, NW, Room 844 Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

**Dear Commissioner Chong:** 

I am writing to you in regards to the federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program, I am a locally elected school board member from Harmony Union School District, and I would like to express my strong support for this program and the proposed regulations governing its implementation.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have access to the Internet and the ability to provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of schools across the country, and more importantly, the plan will bring telecommunications services directly to the classrooms, where they can have the greatest impact on students. It is important to remember that each element of this plan is vital to the overall success of the discount program. Therefore, the inclusion of discounts for internal classroom connections should not be eliminated, nor should the size of the Universal Service Fund be reduced. As I am sure you are aware, this program is essential for preparing our students to enter the workforce of tomorrow.

The E-Rate Telecommunications Discount Program is desperately overdue and our students need these discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge you and the other FCC commissioners to fully support the recommendations of the Joint Board and approve the proposed final regulations regarding the discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Cindy Madill **Board President** 

Cendy Madell

Principal

Salmon Creek Middle School Lauren Leach

> **Business Manager** Regina Calvi

> **Board of Trustees** Iohn Dalv Victoria Johnston Cindy Madill Bruce McCann Mary Szecsey

April 22, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, NW, Room 844 Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

Administrative Office 366 South Market Avenue Mount Joy, PA 17552-2700

717 653-1447 • Fax 717 653-4088

I am the Business Manager of the Donegal School District, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

As the Business Manager of the district, I am a part of our organization's attempts to maintain a balanced budget that does not burden the local taxpayers while delivering a quality educational service to the local community.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distancelearning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

The discounts that we would receive would enable us to provide Internet access to all our students and members of our educational community. These discounts would also allow us to divert our diminishing monetary resources to the attention of our facilities and infrastructure that house our students and equipment.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely.

DONEGAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Business Manager

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, NW, Room 844 Washington, DC 20554

MAY 1 1997

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RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am a school principal from Wiseburn School District in Hawthorne, CA, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Here in the 4-school Wiseburn Elementary District, we have passed a bond to re-wire the electrical systems of our schools so that each classroom will have 10 or more outlets, instead of the 2 that were included 20 to 40 years ago, when the schools were built. We will also be installing Cat 5 wiring, at least 5 drops per room, to support computer networking. We will start with the phone company's Education First ISDN lines between the schools and our district office, where network access arrives from the County Office of Education. Later on, we hope to install fiber between some of the schools (which happen to be located geographically close together), while retaining a paid telco connection to the more distant school. Your rate reductions will help us there, as well as in our connection to the County, which we will probably want to upgrade from ISDN to T1 as more classrooms come online. Your discount to schools for installation costs of wiring, routers and servers may allow us to have some money left over to buy workstations

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jane Comitz, Principal Cabrillo Elementary School 5309 W. 135<sup>th</sup> Street

Hawthorne, CA 90250

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, NW, Room 844 Washington, DC 20554

MAY 1 1997

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RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am a school principal from Wiseburn School District in Hawthorne, CA, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

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Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Vidda Brough, Principal Burnett Elementary School

Viddu Brough

5403 W. 138<sup>th</sup> Street Hawthorne, CA 90250

#### MOSHANNON VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

#### RR 1 BOX 314 HOUTZDALE, PENNSYLVANIA 16651

James J. Lebda, Ed. D. Superintendent of Schools

Scott E. King Assistant Superintendent

April 22, 1997

Cheryl L. Pataky High School Principal

Thomas C. Snyder Elementary Principal

MOEWED

MAY 1 1997

Federal Communication Commission 1919 M Street, NW, Room 844 Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am writing in reference to the FCC Federal State Joint Boards recommendation to provide important discounts to educational institutions for all telecommunications connections within the classrooms of our schools.

As Superintendent of the Moshannon Valley School District, I can assure you that we are committed to providing our students with every possible opportunity to benefit from recent and ongoing technological developments. However, as a rural school district in an economically impoverished area, we simply cannot afford costs associated with the expansion of such opportunities to all of our students. The discounts offered in the Joint Boards recommendations are essential to our efforts to provide rural students with the same equal opportunity as that available in wealthier school districts.

I encourage you to support the Joint Boards recommendation and provide schools like Moshannon Valley with much needed discounts for services and/or internal connections essential to continued growth and expansion of these wonderful technological opportunities.

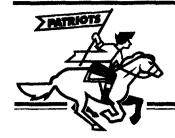
Thank you for considering my views.

Sincerely,

MOSHANNON VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

James J. Lebda, Ed.D.

Superintendent



## Washington Colony School District

130 East Lincoln Avenue • Fresno, California 93706 209/233-0706 • FAX 209/233-9583

April 18, 1997

PECENTE

MAY 1

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, NW, Room 844 Washington, D.C. 20554

Follow The Company

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am writing to you in regards to the federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program. I am a locally elected school board member from Washington Colony Elementary School District, and I would like to express my strong support for this program and the proposed regulations governing its implementation.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have access to the Internet and the ability to provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of schools across the country, and more importantly, the plan will bring telecommunications services directly to the classrooms, where they can have the greatest impact on students. It is important to remember that each element of this plan is vital to the overall success of the discount program. Therefore, the inclusion of discounts for internal classroom connections should not be eliminated, nor should the size of the Universal Service Fund be reduced. As I am sure you are aware, this program is essential for preparing our students to enter the workforce of tomorrow.

The E-Rate Telecommunications Discount Program is desperately overdue and our students need these discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge you and the other FCC commissioners to fully support the recommendations of the Joint Board and approve the proposed final regulations regarding the discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Ropet E. Dade

Sincerely,

Dale H. Drew, District Superintendent • Marjorie Silva, Vice Principal/Project Director

Jeff Dronyk, Transportation & Maintenance Supervisor • Helen M. Cabrera, Administrative Secretary • Bobbi Eldridge, Business Manager

Board of Trustees: Robert E. Dack • Ted L. Davis • Paul R. Demant • Liz Faccinto • Peter L. Mathew

Plate Man

MAY 1 1997

Millington Elementary School 172 Sassafras Street Millington, MD 21651

Commissioner Rachelle B. Chong Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street NW Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

**Dear Commissioner Chong:** 

The Faculty and staff of Millington Elementary School in Kent County Maryland would like you to include us as among the supporters of the Universal Service discounts for schools and libraries that have been recommended by the Joint Board. We believe that it is vital to the future welfare and opportunities of our students that all schools and libraries have affordable access to the Information Superhighway. Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. We hope that the FCC will fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

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Leslie Baves

Janet Lowers

Linda Lagn

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Carny at Bennett Joseph A. Miller Sear Francisco

Beverly H.

Ellew Vanculen

4-21-97 RECEIVED MAY 1 1997

Following Community of the Authorities from Office of Securitary

Dear Comprussioner Chang.

RE: CC Docket 96-45 - Universal Service to Schools and Libraries

I am writing in strong support of the meaningful discounts for schools and libraries as envisioned by the Federal-State Joint Board in their Recommended Rules published last November.

The Recommended Rules allow schools and libraries significant discounts for the telecommunications and critical, non-telecommunications services necessary to assure that all of our schools are connected to the Internet, and other on-line resources that are critical to live, learn and work in an increasingly information-driven world.

Congress passed the Telecommunications Act of 1996 with the clear intent of insuring that Schools and Libraries would be able to access the latest technology. By allowing significant discounts on telecommunications services, local wiring and internet access, the Joint Board has accurately recognized the needs of poorer schools that cannot afford the internal wiring necessary to connect with the Internet. By allowing telco and non-telco carriers to compete for the discounts, the Joint Board has also recognized the need for diverse technologies to serve the diverse urban and rural areas of the State.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter for our schools and libraries — and — ultimately for us all, as a better educated community benefits everyone. Please do not hesitate to call if we can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely Neil and Rosemany Costello



"Uplifting Education"

Robert Shannon Superintendent

Randall Watson Asst. Superintendent for Instruction

Perry McCabe Asst. Superintendent for Business

John Black Director of Special Education

## McPherson Unified School District 418

514 North Main McPherson, Kansas 67460 (316) 241-9400

April 22, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, NW, Room 844 Washington, DC 20554 RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

Federal Control Information Commission
Office of Successive

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

On behalf of the Board of Education of McPherson USD 418, I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and more importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the work force of tomorrow.

McPherson USD 418 has a plan for connecting all classrooms, labs, and offices to the Internet through our local cable television (Multimedia Cablevision) in conjunction with Southwestern Bell and an internet service provider. However, such services are very expensive and the ability to maintain them in the face of other needs is often difficult. Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. On behalf of the Board of Education of McPherson USD 418, I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

1007

Dr. Perry/McCabe, Assistant Superintendent for Business

McPherson USD 418 514 North Main

McPherson, Kansas 67460

An Equal Employment/Educational Opportunity Agency Interlochen Center for the Arts

April 25, 1997



The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong Commissioner Federal Communications Commission Room 844 1919 M Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

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RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

Thank you for helping ensure that all schools and libraries have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

We are excited that the Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have an opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion annually will address the needs of all our schools, and the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts and Internet Service Provider costs is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Over 70% of our students receive financial assistance to attend our school. They need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Sincerely,

Richard 7 Odell

Richard F. Odell President

RFO/lm

Commissioner Rachelle B. Chong Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street NW Washington, DC 20554

PROENTS)

MAY 1 1997

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

WE are faculty and staff from Dr. Mudd Elementary in Maryland. We are writing in support of the Universal Service discounts for schools and libraries that have been recommended by the Joint Board.

We would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Joint Board discount plan will guarantees that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and, importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discount is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. We urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal services for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerela

Susani Cardock

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Mercel T. Werker

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**EBOM** 



## HEART OF GEORGIA REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AGENCY

P.O. BOX 368 - 101 HARRELL AVENUE - EASTMAN, GA 31023 - (912) 374-2240 - FAX: (912) 374-1524

JUNE D. BRADFIELD, Ed.S., Executive Director

April 24, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, NW, Room 844 Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45 Letter of Support

Dear Commissioner Chong:

It is my understanding that you are now working to implement the Telecommunications Act of 1996 for schools and libraries. Let me take this opportunity to thank you for your dedication to the boys and girls of Georgia. I am an educational consultant working with children and adults from ten school systems in the Heart of GA RESA area. They include the counties of Bleckley, Dodge, Laurens, Montgomery, Pulaski, Telfair, Treutlen, Wheeler and Wilcox and the city system of Dublin.

As you can see, our systems are rural and lacking many of the amenities of large systems such as those found in the metropolitan areas of our state. Most of our students come from families whose parent(s) have little education and who are well below the poverty level. These children have little opportunity for success except for those opportunities which are provided by their schools.

The Telecommunications Act will guarantee that the schools in our area will receive much-needed telecommunications discounts that will enable them to have access to distance-learning opportunities and Internet capabilities. This will ensure that our students will have opportunity for success.

I ask that you consider the futures of the children in our area and support the Telecommunications Act. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Donna Wynn

Donna Wynn



HEART OF GEORGIA YSTC 101 HARRELL AVENUE EASTMAN. GA 31023 (912) 374-2240 FAX (912) 374-1524

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W. room 844 Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am the coordinator of the Heart of Georgia Youth Science & Technology Center in Eastman, Georgia and I would like to thank you for your support of technology information and the importance of the internet.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. This plan is very important and vital to the rural areas of Georgia as we seek to compete with much larger school communities. Our children deserve the same and equal opportunities as those of more influential systems.

I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ron Bryant

Lan Bryant



BOARD OF EDUCATION
James E. Vondel, President
Bruce Olsen, Vice President
James W. Howard, Director
Gaylon Sieler, Director
Gregory E. Westlind, Director
Susan Davis, Susiness Manager

Mark M. Lindahl, H. S. Pri

Wayne Denault, Etem, Pri

Cando Public School

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong Commissioner

Federal Communications Commission

1919 M. Street, NW Room 844

Washington, DC 20554

Southern School District No. 8
418 2nd Avenue
FO. Box 489
Cando, North Dakota 58324-0489

Lewis A. Getz, Superintendent 701-968-4416

701-968-4416 Fax: 701-968-4418 MAY 1 1002

MAY 1 199

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chong:

I am a business manager from the Cando Public School District #8, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The 2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of Internet classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

In Cando, we are in the process of wiring our school for internet access. As you know, this is a big expenditure for a district with 345 students K-12. The possibilities I see for our students with Internet access is endless, but costly, Telecommunication providers should not capitalize on our schools or our children. Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications service this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Sincerely

Susan Davis
Business Manager
Cando Public School

APR 22'97 15:52 No.055 P.04/06

April 22, 1997

Commissioner Rachelle B. Chong Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street NW Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

WE are faculty and staff from BERRY ELEMENARY in Maryland. We are writing in support of the Universal Service discounts for schools and libraries that have been recommended by the Joint Board.

We would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Joint Board discount plan will guaranteed that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and, importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discount is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. We urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal services for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely.

### Treutlen County Board of Education

GARY J. WALDEN, Superintendent

Treutien County Schools are Accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools

202 Third Street SOPERTON, GEORGIA 30457 (912) 529-4228

Cartain -

April 24, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, NW, Room 844 Washington, DC 20554

MAY 1 1997

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am the superintendent from Treutlen County Schools, and I am writing to express my gratitude for the actions you have taken to ensure that all school districts will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

Educators in our system are very concerned about preparing the workforce of tomorrow. The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and, in our case, be able to continue to provide distance-learning opportunities. It is important to bring these services directly to the classroom where students learn. Thus, your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is crucial.

We currently have one dial-in connection to the Internet at two of our three schools. Needless to say, we cannot meet the needs of all our students with this limited access. These discounts would allow us to provide the wonderful resources available on the Information Superhighway to a greater numbers of students, a benefit magnified by our inaccessibility to more traditional resources that are available to schools in more populated parts of our state.

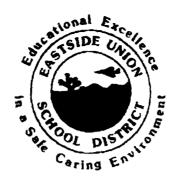
Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincorely,

Gary J. Walden Superintendent

Daugg Walden



Board of Education

Mrs. Ida Ward, President Mr. Larry Lake, Vice-President Mr. Willard Ritchie, Clerk Mrs. Martha D. Johnson, Member Mrs. Janette T. Crawford, Member

April 18, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong Commissioner (California) Federal Communications Commission FAX #202-418-2820 1919 M Street, NW, Room 844 Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:



I am writing to you in regard to the Federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Rate Program. I am a locally elected school board member from the Eastside Union School District, and I would like to express my strong support for this program and the proposed regulations governing its implementation.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have access to the Internet and the ability to provide distance learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of schools across the country, and most importantly, the plan will bring telecommunications services directly to the classroom where they can have the greatest impact on students. It is important to remember that each element of this plan is vital to the overall success of the discount program. Therefore, the implementation of discounts on internal classroom connections should not be eliminated nor should the size of the Universal Service Fund be reduced. As I am sure are aware, this program is essential for preparing our students to enter the workforce of tomorrow.

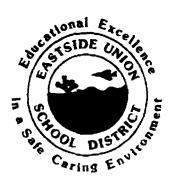
The E-Rate Telecommunications Discount Program is desperately overdue and our students need these discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge you and the other FCC commissioners to fully support the recommendations of the Joint Board and approve the proposed final regulations requiring the discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Board of Trustees
Eastside Union School District

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Board of Education

Mr. Larry Lake, President Mr. Willard Ritchie, Vice President Mrs. Martha D. Johnson, Clerk Mrs. Janette T. Crawford, Member Mrs. Ida Ward, Member

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Dear Commissioner Chong:

As Superintendent of the Eastside Union School District, I thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. The plan is essential for preparing our students for tomorrow's world.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. This discount will allow all students in grade 4 through 8 in the Eastside Union School District to have Internet access for research and communications with distance school districts. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

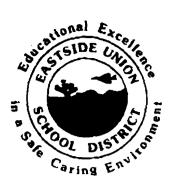
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Sincerely,

Constance E. Webb District Superintendent

Contain & Hall

CEW:km



Board of Education

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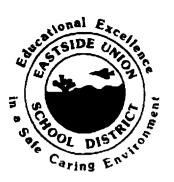
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Sincerely. Madha D. Johnson

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Eastside Union School District



Board of Education

Mrs. Ida Ward, President Mr. Larry Lake, Vice-President Mr. Willard Ritchie, Clerk Mrs. Martha D. Johnson, Member Mrs. Janette T. Crawlord, Member

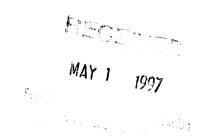
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Janete J. Crawford